

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The undersigned thanks Examiner Menz for conducting a telephone interview with the undersigned on June 28, 2006, during which the allowability of the claims in the application over U.S. Patent 6,159,837 to Yamaji was discussed.

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 over Yamaji. Claims 1 and 6 have been canceled.

Claim 2 is allowable. The following was discussed at the interview. The embodiment of Figs. 1 differs from the embodiment of Figs. 2 in that in Figs. 1, there is a peripheral portion extending up from the base portion. This is recited in original claim 2. In particular, as seen in Fig. 1E or Fig. 1F, there is a peripheral portion 42 that extends from the base portion 41 in a transverse direction relative to the base portion and confines the recess in which the paste body 5 is disposed to fill the recess. The second metal layer 6 closes that recess and sandwiches the paste body.

Although the Examiner suggested that Figs. 3 of Yamaji shows or suggests claim 2, the undersigned respectfully disagrees in that Figs. 3 of Yamaji shows a step of barrier metal 4a beneath the lead portion 7(*i.e.* a paste body) and shows no upstanding part from the base portion which cooperates with the base portion to confine a recess which is filled by the paste body 7. Consequently, now independent claim 2 is also allowable.

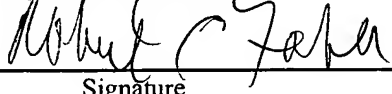
It is noted that claim 6 was rejected under Section 112. It has been canceled.

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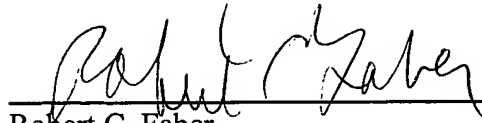


Signature

July 17, 2006

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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